October 29, 2015

Ald. Tony Zielinski (414) 405-1483

Alderman Zielinski budget amendment would add 50 police officers

Alderman Tony Zielinski will be offering a 2016 city budget amendment to hire an additional 50 Milwaukee police officers.

The amendment, which will be offered tomorrow (**Friday, October 30**) before the **Finance and Personnel Committee**, would fund the additional officers from the tax levy. Alderman Zielinski said his amendment is an alternative to one being offered by a colleague that would fund new officers by cutting existing MPD officers and personnel.

"We need every single police officer and position to wage the daily fight against crime in the city, and I don't believe in cutting cops so we can add cops," Alderman Zielinski.

Alderman Zielinski noted he has voted against mandating (three) annual furlough days for police officers in previous budgets – a move he said was "the right one." "Since the furlough days were put in place, we started seeing a serious spike in crime, and in my mind there is a correlation there," he said.

The Finance and Personnel Committee will meet tomorrow to take up Council members' 2016 budget amendments when it meets at **9 a.m. in room 301-B at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.**

Friday's meeting will be televised live on the City Channel (Channel 25 on Time Warner Cable in the City of Milwaukee), and on U-Verse Channel 99. Online viewing is available by going to www.city.milwaukee.gov/Channel 25.